

Remarks

Responsive to the rejection of claims 1-19 under 35USC112, claims 1, 5, 8, 11-13, 16 and 19 have been amended in a manner believed to overcome the claim language objections raised by the Examiner.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-5 and 10-12 under 35USC102 based on Machida et al is respectfully requested for the following reasons:

Machida et al employ a cylindrical mandrel to form a cylindrical-shaped electrode assembly. Applicant, on the other hand, utilizes a mandrel having a substantially rectangular cross-section to form an anode-cathode electrode assembly of prismatic jellyroll configuration. Claim 1 is amended to call for folding the longer one of the electrodes on itself about the mandrel so that the larger electrode contacts both oppositely-facing surfaces of the rectangular mandrel thereby patentably distinguishing over Machida et al. Both claims 11 and 12 are amended to call for the electrodes wound in a prismatic jellyroll configuration thereby patentably distinguishing over Machida et al. Claim 11 is amended further to call for one of the electrodes folded upon itself to define a substantially rectangular-shaped pocket at the innermost portion of the assembly thereby further patentably distinguishing over Machida et al. Claim 12 is amended further to call for two substantially flat sections of the longer electrode facing each other at the innermost portion of the assembly with only a substantially flat section of separator therebetween so as to patentably distinguish further over Machida et al.

The significant distinctions between applicant's claimed invention and the disclosure of Machida et al together with the important advantages of applicant's claimed invention

associated with those distinctions weigh heavily against any obviousness. Accordingly, claims 1-5 and 10-12 as amended are believed to patentably distinguish over Machida et al within the meaning of 35USC102 and 35USC103.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-5, 11 and 12 under 35USC102 based on Binder et al is respectfully requested for the following reasons:

*Same
as previously*

Binder et al employ a cylindrical mandrel to form a cylindrical-shaped electrode assembly. Applicant, on the other hand, utilizes a mandrel having a substantially rectangular cross-section to form an anode-cathode electrode assembly of prismatic jellyroll configuration. Claim 1 is amended to call for folding the longer one of the electrodes on itself about the mandrel so that the larger electrode contacts both oppositely-facing surfaces of the rectangular mandrel thereby patentably distinguishing over Binder et al. Both claims 11 and 12 are amended to call for the electrodes wound in a prismatic jellyroll configuration thereby patentably distinguishing over Binder et al. Claim 11 is amended further to call for one of the electrodes folded upon itself to define a substantially rectangular-shaped pocket at the innermost portion of the assembly thereby further patentably distinguishing over Binder et al. Claim 12 is amended further to call for two substantially flat sections of the longer electrode facing each other at the innermost portion of the assembly with only a substantially flat section of separator therebetween so as to patentably distinguish further over Binder et al.

The significant distinctions between applicant's claimed invention and the disclosure of Binder et al together with the important advantages of applicant's claimed invention associated with those distinctions weigh heavily against any obviousness. Accordingly, claims 1-5 and 10-12 as amended are

believed to patentably distinguish over Binder et al within the meaning of 35USC102 and 35USC103.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 6-9 and 13-19 under 35USC103 based on Machida et al in view of Takeuchi et al is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

Dependent claims 6-9 include all the limitations of amended claim 1 which, for the reasons set forth above, is believed to patentably distinguish over Machida et al. Claims 13-19 are amended to call for the electrode assembly having a prismatic shaped jellyroll configuration and a substantially rectangular-shaped pocket at the innermost portion of the assembly thereby patentably distinguishing over Machida et al for the same reasons as claim 11. Takeuchi et al are not believed to disclose anything having a bearing on the reasons why dependent claims 6-9 and amended claims 13-19 are considered to patentably distinguish over Machida et al. Accordingly, dependent claims 6-9 and claims 13-19 as amended are believed to patentably distinguish over Machida et al and Takeuchi et al within the meaning of 35USC103.

Favorable action on this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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